improve their financial status. However, the Union Government through a combination of feasible measures help the States to overcome their temporarily cash imbalances and overdraft with the RBI to the extent possible. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, a scheme for the States Fiscal Reforms Facility has been drawn. Under this scheme, the States have been encouraged to prepare a monitorable Fiscal Reforms Programme aimed at improving their financial position in the medium term. Government of India have reached agreement with Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh on such a Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Framework and are consequently in an advanced stage of discussion with these states for the finalization of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Integrated Development Plan formulated for NER

2. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state.

(a) the details of integrated development plan formulated for North Eastern Region during the Ninth Plan;

(b) the amount allocated, utilized and achievements made, so far, year-wise;

(c) the details of investment proposed for development of tourism Infrastructure during the Ninth Plan in the NER; and

(d) the details of programmes being executed for manpower development in the tourism sector of the region, including training of tourist guides?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, sir. There is no such plan *i.e.* "integrated development plan" formulated for the North Eastern Region during the Ninth Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Agreed outlay for development of tourism including tourism infrastructure during the Ninth Plan in the NER is as follows:

NINTH PLAN (1997-2002) AGREED OUTLAY ON TOURISM-N.E. REGION

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Ninth Plan
1.	2.	3.
I.	Arunachal Pradesh	1904.00
2.	Assam	2300.00
3.	Manipur	900.00
4.	Meghalaya	1500.00
5.	Mizoram	362.00
6.	Nagaland	2400.00
7.	Tripura	576.50
8.	Sikkim	4000.00

(d) Schemes under implementation in various states of the North East for manpower development in the tourism sector include sponsoring of candidates for manager level training at the Institute of Hotel Management, training of tourist guides and training of officers and staff of the tourism departments of the states.

Assistance to North-Eastern Region for Electrification of villages

3. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government through their agency, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) have provided loan assistance to North-Eastem Region/ States for electrification of villages by installing energy meters;

(b) whether loan assistance provided under "Special Loan Portfolio-Capital SL (Meters) Scheme" has been misutilised and not disbursed to the SSI manufacturers of energy meters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the officers responsible for misutilisation and misappropriation of Government funds?